

MES Meeting – March 25th, 2021 – Noon Pacific Time

Attendees:

Tamra Biasco, FEMA
Ian Madin, NOAA
Christa von Hillebrandt, NOAA
Brad Baker, Gulf Coast Representative
Regina Browne, US Virgin Islands
Summer Ohlendorf, NTWC
Althea Rizzo, Oregon Emergency Management
Maximilian Dixon, Washington Emergency Management
Russel Jackson, NOAA Office for Coastal Management
Nic Arcos, NOAA/NCEI
Ernesto Morales, Puerto Rico
Jacob Witcraft
Laura Kong, ITIC
Amanda Siok, FEMA Region 10
James – AK DHSEM
Jason Ballmann, Tsunami Zone, SCEC
Yvette LaDuke, California
Elyssa Tappero, Washington Emergency Management
Dave Snider, NTWC
Wildaomaris Gonzalez, Puerto Rico Emergency Management Bureau, Puerto Rico
Tenisha Riddick, US Virgin Islands

MES 2021 Workplan Overview and update presentation by Christa

Update MES website needed to include current workplan, meeting notes, leadership and members (Ian Sears)

Tsunami Zone:

Jason Ballman of Tsunami Zone/USC provided an update highlighting the impressive registration numbers for California and the Caribbean (including Puerto Rico and the USVI)

Suggestions for increasing the numbers for other areas beside California and Caribbean.

- Link website registrations from ShakeOut to Tsunami Zone. Some states and territories like to keep it simple and easy. (Jason Ballman)
- Complete the creation of the new pages for CNMI, Puerto Rico and the USVI. In the case of PR and USVI (Jason Ballman with the Territories)
- Link participation in exercises with the TR guideline for exercising (Ian Sears)
- PACIFEX and LANTEX encourage registration of participants on TsunamiZone (NTWC)

TsunamiReady:

- Tamra stated that in workplan we only discuss Tier 2 – maybe we need to expand back to Tier 1.
- Ian to provide an update on the status of TsunamiReady, consideration of expanding MES workplan to also include Tier 1.
- Renewal of TsunamiReady – FY21 Milestone for NOAA is 20 communities
- StormReady is re-doing the requirements and Ian sees this coming to TsunamiReady also.

- How to show Preparedness vs renewal of communities
 - How can we tell the story better?
 - How to keep it useful for domestic and international communities.
 - How to make it “adaptable” to all coastal communities. Issues with some requirements, eg. in Tourist zones. Tsunami Zone could also help to promote and recognize those communities that are TR.
- Maximillian stated that we share all TR activities that are done in support of TR could be shared, eg. pictures. What can be done for them also to be TR? If it’s not broke don’t fix it.
 - Ian suggests that it could be regionalized.
 - Wildaomaris from PR notes that TR Supporter has been getting a lot more interest and engagement, key is the empathy with the stakeholders.
 - Challenges from South and East on political detractor for TsunamiReady. Gulf and East Coast challenges – signage is an issue.
 - The UN UNESCO Global Tsunami Coordination Group has recommended that the Draft 10-Year Research, Development and Implementation Plan for the UN Decade Tsunami Programme (the programme) contribute to achieving the societal outcome of A Safe Ocean with the aim of making 100% of communities at risk of tsunami prepared for and resilient to tsunamis by 2030 through the implementation of the UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Programme and other initiatives to include, but not limited to:
 - The adoption and continued implementation of the UNESCO IOC Tsunami Ready Guidelines and Indicators as the international standard for evidence-based community preparedness for tsunamis.
 - Enhanced access and capacity development for high-resolution near shore bathymetric and topographic data and identification of potential tsunami sources for accurate and improved inundation modelling and evacuation mapping and planning in support of Tsunami Ready communities.
 - Enhanced integration to minimize tsunami disaster impacts and to enable rapid restoration of socio-economic activities and critical infrastructure services post tsunami impacts

ACTION ITEM: Ian is going to organize a meeting to discuss a way forward on need and history.
Ian/Tamra/Christa

LANTEX & PACIFEX Update: NTWC. Both were conducted, and are discussing best way forward to encourage and document participation.

CARIBE WAVE Update:

Wildaomaris, given the seismicity in SW PR there was heightened interest, the fact that schools and universities are virtual affected participation, but many other sectors were engaged. The municipalities self organized with virtual activities, as well as drills and other creative initiatives (murals, painting signs

on roads). Communications and response plans were validated. A live code test was done with EAS and WEA activation. States and Territories are going to be consulted on future scenarios.

Cascadia Subduction from California thru Washington, it is a National Exercise. New Shake Map integrated into planning scenario. June 2022 – the exercise will start 96 hours afterward the OT Earthquake. More focused on Response. Laura Kong suggested that the National response plan, from a scientific perspective which spans states and islands could be tested Cascadia Rising 2022. (Tamra will FWUP).

New Business – None to Report

Next MES Meeting – May 26th Noon Pacific Time